

(11) the status of efforts to coordinate Federal programs with State and local government programs and leverage those programs.

SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—In addition to the amounts authorized by section 306 of the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892d), there are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this Act—

- (1) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2005;
- (2) \$26,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;
- (3) \$32,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;
- (4) \$38,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and
- (5) \$45,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

(b) *JOINT OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING CENTERS.*—Of the amounts appropriated pursuant to subsection (a), the following amounts shall be used to carry out section 4(c) of this Act:

- (1) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2005.
- (2) \$11,000,000 for fiscal year 2006.
- (3) \$12,000,000 for fiscal year 2007.
- (4) \$13,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.
- (5) \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

(c) *INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE.*—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, from amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 2005 through 2012 to the Department of Defense, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Homeland Security, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the head of each such department or agency may make available not more than \$10,000,000 per fiscal year to carry out interagency activities under section 3 of this Act.

SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) *ADMINISTRATOR.*—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(2) *COASTAL STATE.*—The term “coastal state” has the meaning given that term by section 304(4) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1453(4)).

(3) *COMMITTEE.*—The term “Committee” means the Interagency Ocean Mapping Committee established by section 3.

(4) *EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE.*—The term “exclusive economic zone” means the exclusive economic zone of the United States established by Presidential Proclamation No. 5030, of March 10, 1983.

(5) *OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING.*—The term “ocean and coastal mapping” means the acquisition, processing, and management of physical, biological, geological, chemical, and archaeological characteristics and boundaries of ocean and coastal areas, resources, and sea beds through the use of acoustics, satellites, aerial photogrammetry, light and imaging, direct sampling, and other mapping technologies.

(6) *TERRITORIAL SEA.*—The term “territorial sea” means the belt of sea measured from the baseline of the United States determined in accordance with international law, as set forth in Presidential Proclamation Number 5928, dated December 27, 1988.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee substitute amendment be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 2489), as amended, was passed.

RESEARCH REVIEW ACT OF 2004

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5213.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5213) to expand research information regarding multidisciplinary research projects and epidemiological studies.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 5213) was read the third time and passed.

NATIONAL OCEAN EXPLORATION PROGRAM ACT

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 791, S. 2280.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina). The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2280) to establish and coordinate the national ocean exploration program with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2280) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 2280

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “National Ocean Exploration Program Act”.

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT.

The Secretary of Commerce, through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, shall, in consultation with the National Science Foundation and other appropriate Federal agencies, establish a coordinated national ocean exploration program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

SEC. 3. PURPOSES.

The purposes of the program are the following:

(1) To explore the physical, biological, chemical, geological, archaeological, temporal, and other related characteristics of the oceans to benefit, inform, and inspire the American people.

(2) To create missions and scientific activities of discovery that will improve our understanding, appreciation, and stewardship of the unique marine ecosystems, organisms, chemistry, and geology of the world's oceans, and to enhance knowledge of submerged maritime historical and archaeological sites.

(3) To facilitate discovery of marine natural products from these ecosystems that may have potential beneficial uses, including those that may help combat disease or provide therapeutic benefits.

(4) To communicate such discoveries and knowledge to policymakers, regulators, researchers, educators, and interested non-governmental entities in order to support policy decisions and to spur additional scientific research and development.

(5) To maximize effectiveness by integrating multiple scientific disciplines, employing the diverse resources of the ocean science community, and making ocean exploration data and information available in a timely and consistent manner.

(6) To achieve heightened education, environmental literacy, public understanding and appreciation of the oceans.

SEC. 4. AUTHORITIES.

In carrying out the program the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall—

(1) conduct interdisciplinary exploration voyages or other scientific activities in conjunction with other Federal agencies or academic or educational institutions, to survey little known areas of the marine environment, inventory, observe, and assess living and nonliving marine resources, and report such findings;

(2) give priority attention to deep ocean regions, with a focus on surveying deep water marine systems that hold potential for important scientific and medical discoveries, such as hydrothermal vent communities and seamounts;

(3) conduct scientific voyages to locate, define, and document historic shipwrecks, submerged sites, and other ocean exploration activities that combine archaeology and oceanographic sciences;

(4) develop, in consultation with the National Science Foundation, a transparent process for reviewing and approving proposals for activities to be conducted under this program;

(5) enhance the technical capability of the United States marine science community by promoting the development of improved oceanographic research, communication, navigation, and data collection systems, as well as underwater platforms and sensors;

(6) conduct public education and outreach activities that improve the public understanding of ocean science, resources, and processes, in conjunction with relevant educational programs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Science Foundation, and other agencies;

(7) accept donations of property, data, and equipment to be applied for the purpose of exploring the oceans or increasing knowledge of the oceans; and

(8) establish an ocean exploration forum to encourage partnerships and promote communication among experts and other stakeholders in order to enhance the scientific and technical expertise and relevance of the national program.

SEC. 5. EXPLORATION TECHNOLOGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE TASK FORCE.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in coordination with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the U.S. Geological Survey, Office of Naval Research, and relevant governmental, non-governmental, academic, and other experts, shall convene an ocean technology and infrastructure task force to develop and implement a strategy—

(1) to facilitate transfer of new exploration technology to the program;

(2) to improve availability of communications infrastructure, including satellite capabilities, to the program;